

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1, line 5:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/365,417, filed February 13, 2003, which in turn is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/925,522, filed August 10, 2001, now issued as U.S. Patent 6,561,297, the entire contents of both of which are hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at page 2, line 8 through page 4, line 8, as follows:

If a four-cycle engine is ~~attempted~~ to be put into use ~~for a snowmobile~~ in the same manner as above, the upright mounting has been difficult because a four-cycle engine has a greater full height compared to a two cycle engine due to its bulky cylinder head and the necessity of an oil pan. Further, since a four-cycle engine needs additional unique parts ~~unique to it~~ such as an alternator, supercharger, intercooler, oil filter and the like, it has been very difficult to lay out all these parts in a limited engine compartment space.

Fig. 2 shows a proposal to ~~To~~ overcome the above space difficulty, ~~there has been a layout proposal as shown in~~ In Fig. 2 ~~in that an engine 202 to be mounted on a snowmobile 201 is set~~ inclined forwards in an engine compartment 206 so as to reduce the full height of engine 202 while the aforementioned components are laid out in the space created by the inclined arrangement of the engine.

On the other hand, in order to enhance the power of a four-cycle engine (which is relatively low in power compared to a two-cycle engine), ~~it is generally known that a~~ supercharger (so-called turbocharger) ~~is~~ can be provided on the intake side of the engine

so as to increase the amounts of air and fuel to be supplied to the combustion chamber, to thereby enhance the engine power.

When the engine has a supercharger, provision of an intercooler in the intake line ~~is effective in improving~~ improves the intake efficiency. However, the position at which the intercooler is attached needs careful thought as to the cooling efficiency of the engine and its affected by the attached position of the supercharger, so that it has been very difficult to design the layout and allot mounting spaces for these components in the engine compartment.

For example, when the intercooler is arranged on the top of the engine, the full height of the engine becomes high so that the center of gravity as well as the body height of the snowmobile ~~becomes~~ become high, hence the result is not preferable.

On the other hand, when the intercooler is arranged in front of the engine, the heavy part is located away from the center of gravity, so that ~~the maneuverability lowers~~ decreases. Further, there is another drawback ~~in that if the snowmobile is collided~~ collides, the front part of the engine compartment will crush ~~so that damage to~~ seriously damage the engine ~~will become serious~~.

For a four-cycle engine, the oil pan, designed at 238, needs to be positioned at the engine bottom. If the engine is of a wet sump type, a large oil pan 238 is needed, which will ~~cause difficulty of interference~~ interfere with the steering shaft, designated at 224, as shown in Fig. 2.

Further, ~~for a snowmobile,~~ the underside of the engine compartment for a snowmobile serves as a sled sliding over snow, ~~hence and therefore~~ hence and therefore needs to be closed, which makes maintenance work such as changing oil difficult.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 16, which starts with "Now, the configuration..."

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 14, as follows:

The rear frame 12 is extended to the rear with respect to the vehicle's direction of travel and also functions as the cover for accommodating there beneath the whole crawler 16 ~~under it~~.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 20, as follows:

A steering shaft 24 is provided extending upwardly substantially in the center of the body between seat 22 and front cover 4. ~~while handlebars~~ Handlebars 26 extending horizontally to the left and right and included ~~rearwards~~ rearwardly are attached at the top of steering shaft 24.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 6, which starts with "Next, the configuration..."

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 14, as follows:

An intake path 5 including a carburetor and throttle body is arranged on the upper side of the engine 2 body, ~~an~~ or block. An alternator 31 and air cleaner 32 ~~being~~ are arranged to the rear, downstream of the intake path.

Please insert the following new paragraph on page 22 between lines 11 and 12:

As shown in Fig. 6, in one example embodiment the opening port 150 has its major dimension parallel to a width direction of the body frame 10. That is, the opening port 150 is formed in an elongated manner along the body width direction.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 2, which starts with "Next, the configuration..."

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 12, which starts with "Next, the intake..."

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 13, as follows:

In the arrangement of the intake system, the parts ~~to be disposed~~ on the upper side of engine 2 are positioned under front cover 4 behind the base of windshield 28 from where it extends upward while the parts ~~to be disposed~~ in front of cylinder head 3 are accommodated, so as not to interfere with other components, on the front inner side of front cover 4 where it gradually lowers toward the front.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 25, through page 26, line 7 as follows:

On the other hand, the exhaust path starts from cylinder case 39 toward the front side of engine 2 and is connected to the inlet side of supercharger 7 via an exhaust manifold 41. The outlet side of supercharger 7 is connected to an exhaust passage 42, which is extended from the front side of the engine 2 body or body to the rear along the engine 2 ~~body-block~~ and connected to a muffler 43 arranged at one side behind the engine.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 8, which starts with "Next, mounting of..."

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 12, which starts with "Next, the third..."

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 8, as follows:

In the above embodiments, intercooler 8 or oil cooler 108 is ~~put into use~~used as a heat exchanger and arranged inside the tunnel-like hollow inside body frame 10. However, the present invention should not be limited to this arrangement. For example, the radiator may be arranged inside body frame 10. In this case, the engine cooling water can be efficiently cooled so that the engine can be prevented from overheating, thus making it possible to keep the engine in a good running state.